



VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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DEAN

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Hon. Harry T. Edwards
U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
5400 E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse
333 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001-2866

To the Members of the Ad Hoc Committee of Federal Appellate Judges:

I join with the deans of other law school who have endorsed the arrangement described in the March 2002 Final Agreement of Federal Appellate Judges, calling for a moratorium on federal appellate law clerk hiring during the Fall of 2002. I agree that this presents a reasonable solution to a problem that has plagued law schools for some years. In addition, I understand that a number of federal district courts and some state courts have also subscribed to this agreement.

I commit Villanova University School of Law to comply with the terms of the Final Agreement in relation to any court that subscribes to those terms. In particular, we will discourage our students from submitting applications for clerkship positions with participating federal courts before the Fall of the third year of law school. In addition, we will not facilitate the release of official transcripts and will discourage members of the faculty from sending letters of reference or making calls on behalf of law clerk applicants before the Fall of the applicants' third year of law school.

I am optimistic that this cooperative effort will rationalize the system of hiring law clerks.

Very truly yours,

Mark A. Sargent
Dean

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cc: Hon. Edward R. Becker